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LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: February 7, 2012

SUBJECT: Bass Museum Awarded \$100,000 NEA "Our Town" Grant

This Letter to Commission is provided to inform you that the City's Bass Museum of Art was awarded a matching grant of \$100,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts' prestigious new "Our Town" grants program, and that the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation has generously provided the required \$100,000 match.

"Our Town" grants are awarded, as stated on the NEA website, "for creative placemaking projects that contribute to the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful and sustainable places with the arts at their core." Applicants to the program must be nonprofit cultural institutions partnering with a local government. The funded project, "TC: Temporary Contemporary," will place outdoor works of art in unexpected places throughout the Collins Park and City Center neighborhoods - on sidewalks, in parks and on the walls of buildings. The project will be realized with the help of the Tourism & Cultural Development Department.

Please join me in congratulating Bass Museum Executive Director Silvia Cubina and her staff for these important new grant awards, and look for the first of the "Temporary Contemporary" installations to appear in the next few weeks. We look forward to this collaborative project.